

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCSE-00 SCA-01 CAB-05

COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FAA-00 SY-05 DHA-02 ORM-01 IO-10

OMB-01 PPTE-00 /086 W

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O P 191530Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL MUNICH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6092

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY

RUFHAU /AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY 557

AMCONSUL ZURICH PRIORITY

USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY

UNCLAS MUNICH 1733

EE.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, SREF, PFOR, PINS, CZ, GW, GE, AU (MEEKER, BARRY)

SUBJECT: ALLEDGED AMCIT FLIES HELICOPTER TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

TO RESCUE THREE EAST GERMAN REFUGEES

FOR S/PRS AND EUR/CE

REF: HUMPHREY/TYNES TELECON 19 AUGUST

1. FOLLOWING INFO, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, OBTAINED
FROM LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNTS.

2. ALLEGED AMCIT BARRY MEEKER DEPARTED MUNICH INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT AT APPROXIMATELY 1600 HOURS 17 AUGUST, FLEW CHARTERED
BELL JETRANGER HELICOPTER TO A PRE-ARRANGED POINT 500 METERS
INSIDE CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER OPPOSIT PEILSTEIN-AIGEN, AUSTRIAN
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(BETWEEN PASSAU AND BUDWEIS) AND RETURNED TO TRAUNSTEIN, FRG

WITH THREE GDR REFUGEES.

3. REFUGEES IDENTIFIED AS PHYSICIAN FROM LEIPZIG, HIS DAUGHTER AND A YOUNG MALE STUDENT. MEEKER'S HELICOPTER CAME UNDER FIRE FROM CZECH BORDER POLICE FORCING HIM TO TAKE OFF LEAVING PHYSICIAN'S WIFE AND A STATELESS POLE, WHO HAD ACCOMPANIED HIM FROM MUNICH, ON GROUND.

4. MEEKER NOW CONVALESCING AT TRAUNSTEIN HOSPITAL FROM TWO MINOR GUNSHOT WOUNDS.

5. MEEKER, BORN 1941 OR 1942 IN HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, IS FORMER U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES CAPTAIN AND HELICOPTER PILOT. MEEKER NOT REGISTERED WITH CONGEN AND CONSULAR SECTION CAN NOT RPT NOT CONFIRM HIS U.S. CITIZENSHIP.

6. INCIDENT CAME TO LIGHT INADVERTENTLY AUGUST 18 WHEN MEEKER'S HELICOPTER OBSERVED BY GERMAN POLICE OFFICIAL WHO WAS VISITING HOSPITAL.

7. ONE REPORT CONNECTED MEEKER WITH AN ORGANIZATION IDENTIFIED ONLY AS "AMCO", A ZURICH-BASED ORGANIZATION WHICH ALLEGEDLY ADVERTISES OFFERS OF "ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS WITH RELATIVES IN EASTERN EUROPE".

8. ANOTHER REPORT STATED THAT THIS WAS MEEKER'S THIRD SUCH TRIP.

9. THUS FAR NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN BROUGHT AGAINST MEEKER, ALTHOUGH CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE TO HIS HAVING FILED FALSE FLIGHT PLAN.

10. FEDERAL BORDER POLICE (BUNDESGRENZSCHUTZ) INFORMALLY EXPRESSED TO PAO LACK OF JURISDICTION OVER AFFAIR SINCE MEEKER ENTERED AND LEFT CZECH AIR SPACE FROM AUSTRIA.
SPIVACK

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